

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 beginning at 7:00pm in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. Mr. Gallivan is absent. The following members were present.

Eric Kraus, Chairman
James Stanton, Vice Chairman
Nancy Mackenzie, Clerk
David Salvatore

Also present:
James Johnson, Town Administrator
Cindy Berube, Executive Assistant

Mr. Kraus called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Appointments

7-1 Appointment of Deputy Fire Chief

The first order of business is to interview Paul Barry. Chief Bailey introduced Lt. Paul Barry. He explained they had started the process of searching for a new Deputy Chief in April when Deputy Laracy left to be the new Fire Chief in Stoughton Mass. There was an assessment center, they were judged in seven areas. He is pleased that Paul topped the list and he is my recommendation and will do a fantastic job moving forward.

Paul Barry stepped up to the podium. Mr. Kraus you have become strongly endorsed by the Chief. Mr. Barry spoke to him being a member of the Fire department for 23 years. He started as a call FF, in 1999 became a permanent, safe instructor, in 2002, training coordinator for the department and in 2005 became a lt. He is a graduate of Walpole. This position has always been a goal.

Mr. Kraus, nice to meet you, thank you for standing before us and it sounds like you made it thru a difficult process. We as a board appreciate the fact that there were four of you that applied. I defer to the Chief; we rely heavily on his expertise. I like the fact that you have been with Walpole fire dept. and started from the bottom and worked your way up.

Mr. Salvatore, we have been kept up to date on the process. I have no questions.

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to appoint Paul Barry to the position of Deputy Fire Chief beginning on July 11, 2016 at Step 11, seconded by Mrs. Mackenzie

Mrs. Mackenzie thanked the candidates. We are all excited and we have known each other for years. Congratulations. Mr. Kraus congratulated him. He knows talking to the chief we had a quality group.

VOTED 4-0-0

Mr. Barry thanked the Board and the Chief and his family and his extended family. Local 246 honor and privilege to serve as president and thanked the men.

Liz Gaffey, Assistant Town Clerk swore in Paul Barry in as Deputy Fire Chief.

Open Fall Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Johnson anticipates four zoning articles, articles for funding of all three buildings. You may want to consider increase on hotel tax. Mrs. Mackenzie thinks it is important to get that back on the warrant. We got the meal tax this can help bring money in.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to open the Fall Town meeting and close on August 16, 2016, seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 4-0-0

7-3 Temporary Operations for the Fire Department, In front of Blackburn Hall

Mr. Johnson received a lot of positive feedback. They are glad you are not placing it on the parking lot. I need to know if you are in agreement with this.

MOTION to approve the location of the Temporary Operations of the Fire Department during construction of the new Fire station to be located as shown on a plan entitled "Municipal Parking Lot During Fire Station Construction" dated June 16, 2016 drawn by Schwartz/Silver Architects Inc. seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 4-0-0

7-4 Bid Award, 2016-39

Mr. Johnson explained this is for energy efficient LED lighting. We projected \$60,000. I would recommend favorable action.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to award contract 2016-39 for supply energy efficient LED lighting package to The Camera Company (integrated solutions) Norwood MA in the amount of \$52,670.56, seconded by Mr. Salvatore, VOTED 4-0-0

Mr. Fountain, Walpole Media was present and Mr. Kraus wanted to know when Walpole Media is coming in to give us a quarterly update. Mr. Fountain will speak with the Board of Directors. We launch are first summer workshops. They are starting work on our lighting grid. When we created the corp. We visited Norwood, the ability for the community come in to edit. Mr. Fountain, we have that now after 3pm. Come Sep/Oct you will see new content. Thanks for your support.

Consent Agenda

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to approve the requests under the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Mackenzie,

7-5 Camy 5kRun and David 5Kwalk

7-6 to change membership of Michael McGrath on EDC from Associate to Regular member

Mr. Kraus noted that Michael has done a great job on the EDC and will bring a lot to the Commission.

VOTED 4-0-0

Town Administrators Update

Hotel –There is discussion of a third hotel at the corner of Pine St and Route 1. Looking to set up a meeting later this summer.

Community Services-I would like some guidance, do you want Patrick and I to come in to meet with you? The Board stated they do want to meet to discuss the issue. This involves the Recreation Department, Council on Aging and Veteran's Services.

Memorial Pond-we did not get the grant and he is concerned this will turn into a swamp. Begin to move forward. What do we need to do to get the permit to dredge it? Mr. Stanton questioned if a permit from DEP is required. Mr. Johnson explained they would have to go through a number of different agencies. The cost could be upwards to 1 million dollars. He has asked Maggie and Landis to begin to figure out what needs to be done in order to dredge the pond. Mrs. Mackenzie would like to know why they were not successful. Mr. Johnson is waiting to hear back.

7-2 WALPOLE POWER CHOICE PRESENTATION

Paul Gromer and Marlana Patton of Bay State Consultants. To discuss Walpole Power Choice a Municipal aggregation plan. They provided a PowerPoint presentation (document 7-2). Mr. Gromer explained it is a form of group purchasing in which a community chooses a supplier on behalf of the residents. It applies only the electricity supply. Eversource will continue to deliver electricity to the town but now the town chooses its own supplier. When it comes to delivery there is no choice, Eversource does that. A customer can opt out at anytime with no penalty. About 75 communities have this.

Benefits- Cost Savings- the goal is to beat the average Eversource Basic Service rates.

Choice- The program will give participants choice in the environmental characteristics and price of their electricity supply.

Predictability –Program seeks to provide a steady, year-round price without the seasonal volatility of basic service prices.

Transparency- The competitive procurement process will ensure a vetted, transparent alternative to Basic Service. The town program it will be a consumer friendly program.

Participant experience-seamless transition, they will see a change in the rate on their bill. They will continue to have Eversource; Low-income discounts will remain the same.

Public education and outreach, one month before they launch a letter is mailed to every eligible participant, detailed information on the towns website, public information sessions, general info session, some targeting seniors, provide customer support. We are willing to take phone calls

Reviewed the program launch schedule. Explained how the process will work. Given were we are now we are targeting next march. June-July Public comment period. June-October Aggregation plan review by DOER and DPU. September-January-electricity supply procurement, February-formal pubic education and outreach campaign.

Mr. Salvatore when we sign the document with a particular rate. What is the term? Mr. Gromer explained we will bid out a variety of terms, than you will decide, most are one years some 2 years. Mr. Salvatore, that is a fixed amount for that term. Mr. Gromer, generally speaking it will be fixed. Some go with summer month costs and winter month costs. Mr. Salvatore during the term of the contract, monthly update what our price looks like compared to others. Mr. Gromer yes, they are set 6 months at a time. We will make you aware of the cost difference.

Mr. Stanton, how many suppliers are out there? When you put out a bid, how many weigh in. Mr. Gromer explained most recent we got 5 to 6. One thing we think, the more bids we get, we try to get others involved. Can you name the companies? The largest is Constellation and Constar solutions.

Mrs. Mackenzie compares this to fuel. Mr. Kraus, what is the biggest drawback? Mr. Gromer one going into the program, overpromise what the program would be. We advise conservative, do not create false expectations. The other risk, basic service changes every 6 months, you will be lock into a contract for a period of time. Electricity prices can shift a great deal, two safeguards, better off with a shorter contract, closer to the market. Customers can opt out at any time at no cost.

Mr. Kraus asked if you could opt out and opt in. If you give folks the option, the companies do not have to honor the price.

Kathy Cammarata, 24 Ridge Rd, I work in renewable energy. The winter rates are higher, concern is this, someone studies bills, and the distribution cost changes. That can change from 14 cents to 19cents, it is variable. She noted the supply price may change from months to month, it is 10cents now, I look at bills al the time.

Mr. Gromer the rate will be based on two things, you will know the Eversource price is. She stated that several residents are senior citizens. Concern on how you determine the rate. Mr. Kraus wanted to know if the firm would help with the community education. Do our best educate. If the utility price changes they can opt out. As the program goes on. There will always be information on line. The prices only change twice a year. We do a special outreach to the seniors the reality of shifting prices.

Mr. Johnson spoke of the next steps, this is on our website for 3 weeks for comment period. Mr. Stanton how do people comment? Mr. Gromer explained by mail to Tom Gregory or by emails to him.

OPEN FORUM 7:55PM

Jean Duffy on Clarkson Drive. Mr. Kraus explained the Open Meeting Law and advise of Counsel prohibits us from making votes or decisions if not on an Agenda.

Ms. Duffy is representing a group, four things you can take positive actions.

Intervene, file that on the FERC PF16-1 you shorten the process limited window, you cannot file until a formal application has been filed. Allows you participate in hearings, have legal standings in Court of appeals. You can go to FERC.Gov.

Join a municipal coalition; this is not legal, hiring a lawyer, a untied front, and share responsibility with high document

Pass a resolution that forbids them to charge ratepayers. The house bill includes the surcharge, resolution past to provide a different level w/o pipeline surcharge.

Support Robert Hedlund to include Northeast project in with the Weymouth. We want to tell you on 7/14-7/18 march starting at Medway, asking to put a sign on the green. We ask you to consider the four items for further action.

Mr. Kraus at a future meeting we will have this as an update from your group and Spectra energy. We took a vote against Spectra from the gas line in our aquifer.

Mr. Kraus suggested she sit with Mr. Gregory and go over these. Mrs. Mackenzie thinks she is doing a good job.

Mr. Spillane, the Sewer and Water Commission have had conversation from K&P, the Jarvis farmland is under Article 97, it would have to be overridden by a federal law.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to adjourn at 8:10pm, seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 4-0-0